Office of the Inspector General's

Headquarters Interview Program

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Headquarters Interview Program

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HEADQUARTERS INTERVIEW PROGRAM

Introduction

1. The Office of the Inspector General conducted a program of interviewing headquarters employees during the summer and fall of 1974. It was decided to take as the persons to be interviewed those professional employees at headquarters who were in their fifth and tenth years with the Agency. Past records indicated that there is a slight increase in resignations in those periods, and the thought was that there may be a sharper focus on the part of those interviewed concerning the Agency and their place in it. We interviewed 276 persons. With the advice of personnel in the Office of Medical Services a questionnaire was designed to provide both a structured format for purposes of statistical manipulation and a number of open-ended questions designed to elicit some of the more general attitudes and reasoning of employees as a basis for looking behind the relatively sterile information often produced by such questionnaires. Rather than being left to their own devices, to resolve definitional questions by themselves in filling out the questionnaires, each employee was interviewed. Thus, this report presents both statistical results and more general conclusions and evaluations. Some of the highlights

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of the results, and our observations concerning them, are presented in this section of the report.

- a good place to work, and project a satisfying career for themselves here. This generally favorable reaction is modified, however, by some critical qualifications about the Agency's performance in several areas and by a latent unease about the future of career prospects. It may also need modifying in view of expressions about intent to remain with the Agency. While only 2% of the survey population say they intend to leave, in contrast to the actual annual rate of departure of 1%, 16% say they are uncertain; some 12% either evaluate their prospects for a satisfying career in the Agency as slight, or feel unable to make a judgment.
 - 3. Some general observations can be made on other than statistical compilations, being based on the cumulative results of individually expressed attitudes toward issues presented throughout the questionnaire. They emerge also from common elements underlying specific responses to different questions.
 - 4. One overall impression from this survey group is that its members are attracted to the Agency basically by the dynamic work situation. The more specific reasons are the substance of the work

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itself, the vitality of the work environment, and personal recognition in the job, all of which gives rise to job satisfaction.

5. The sense of job satisfaction is a strong built-in asset of the Agency, however perishable it may be. We have no direct evidence that this is deteriorating, but scattered comments on Agency performance and concern over the future of some Agency functions suggest that the condition of this resource should be to continue to receive the conscious attention of management. The durability of job satisfaction varies with its cause and, according to attitudes expressed in this survey, relates to the actions of different echelons of management experienced by the individual employee. In many fields -- economics and engineering to mention only two -- job satisfaction is attached, for example, to the state of the art practiced in the Agency. Maintenance of the equipment, personnel and objectives which account for this advanced level of endeavor, depend upon the decisions of high level management echelons. Quite different management groups are associated with the conditions needed to make administrative and support positions and lower level jobs hold the employees' interest. The management capability involved in all of this spans from critical policy makers to co-working supervisors. The importance of management-supervisory expertise at every level of the Agency is nowhere else so clear, we believe, as in a composite picture of its direct

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impact upon individual job satisfaction.

- 6. By stressing the strength and importance of job satisfaction, we do not mean to say that job status, i.e., grade level and advancement, are not important or that they are considered to be completely satisfactory by all. We do mean, however, that unless serious inequities are felt, personnel status is not an exclusive consideration in assessments of the Agency by employees. Even the personnel-oriented nature of the Agency, commented upon favorably by many, means personal recognition as a contributing member of an office is important as often as it means being looked after in personal welfare terms.
- 7. A second general observation is that the existing opportunity for individuals to make their own impact is very important. Along with job satisfaction as discussed above, this opportunity appears largely to explain the apparently firm commitment of personnel to the Agency. It is the adverse of overly bureaucratic processes. Some interviewees, in fact, expressed their admiration for the Agency by contrasting it to most other Government Agencies which they describe as too rigid to use, or to permit scope for, the development of individual capabilities.
- 8. The scope for individual initiative is stated directly as a good thing. It is in comparative situations, however, where the

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desire for individual input is most apparent, e. g. a lower level of

bureaucratic performance is accepted because it assures a wider

scope for individual action. Supervision, for example, is noted as

much for its absence as its performance; general direction and

delegation of responsibility is judged by many to be a positive feature.

The absence of oppressive office direction is welcomed, and the

function rated rather well, in exchange simply for a first-among
equals working chief. The loose structure of this working relationship

is clearly desired by many.

9. In a different area, the various organized or unorganized systems for discussing careers with subordinates is a case in point.

Despite the different levels and substance of such discussions throughout the Agency, the majority of our sample population say they are satisfactory. The principal reason is that they are responsive to questions and oriented generally with regard to career expectations and possible directions for career development. To a great extent employees believe that a more formally organized system for career development is not really possible. They are, consequently, more or less content to live with the loose system that provides for discussing their own situation, and which also permits using their own initiative and keeping their options open. This does not mean there are not those who decry the limitations of the present situation and feel

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that the direction of careers should be better organized in the Agency; or that even the informal system now in use could not perform better.

It does mean that a good many, on balance, feel the actual system works fairly well and prefer to initiate and maneuver there own way within it.

- 10. The response to one question throws an interesting sidelight on the way more or less closed formal organizations are perceived with respect to individual career movement. Directorates have long been considered by many to be almost impenetratable by personnel from other directorates. And yet more than 50% of our sample population feel that it is either possible, or very possible, to move careers across Directorate lines. Only 4% view it as impossible and the rest as seldom possible, i.e. resting upon unique conditions.
- 11. In these remarks about the attitude of employees favoring their ability to move as individuals within one system, we do not mean that all those interviewed feel similarly about imperfections in the performance of organizational entities or systems. Critical evaluations are made in each area of activity covered in this survey. Nor do we mean to say that good ratings on functions are not qualified, occasionally even to the extent of negating the evaluation. There is ambivalence, for example, in the desire to pick one's career from point to point, and to have more security in a better organized system.

Ambivalence for the individual is matched by the choice faced by management in general, particularly in balancing formal procedure against unstructured practice, to assure timely achievement of objectives while leaving sufficient room for the full play of individual talents. In balance, the attitudes expressed in this survey seem to favor the fact that management leans toward relying upon individual initiative in less formally structured systems. As well disposed as employees are towards this general approach, a number feel there is room for better organization. When asked at the end of the interview for any comment they wished to make, 125 responded. The largest bloc (38, or 30%) said that better management is needed in the Agency. We do not feel that this negates our overall evaluation, but that it is a lesser part of the ambivalence that might be expected towards such a subject.

12. A third general observation is that there is a latent uneasiness about the future. The threshold at which it might become manifest is uncertain, a result, we believe, of problems of the past couple of years. The unease is evidenced in employees' listing of current concerns, namely, the handling of possible RIFs, downgrading, reorganization, and public problems. We have made no attempt to assess the unease implicit in some attitudes about regular functions such as promotions, assignments and career advancement. We do

believe, however, that there is increasing sensitivity to methods of ranking personnel and to rating the importance of work in functions and offices.

The uneasiness has overtones of insecurity, both personal and organizational, best seen in remarks made supplementary to discussions on a variety of specific areas. In each instance the implicit question is about the effect of management's action or inaction upon individual security, i.e., the employee's job, function or grade. The concern may range to the policy level, where a question is raised as to whether the Agency is asserting its role on the national level against competitors in the production of intelligence; the loss of proper Agency functions is a concern. At a lower level, a component's leadership is questioned for not ensuring the regular flow of information necessary for the office to produce on a level commensurate with an office doing related work; downgrading of the office's function is the concern. In another viewpoint, while the announced objectives of an office are said to be achieved fully, the ultimate objective to which the office contributes is said to be off target and to make little or no contribution to national security. The concern is that the individual will suffer along with the office in the long run, as having a capability of little worth. The same concern is expressed in another dimension

in relation to a question on the mental alertness of an office. Some officers who rated theirs at the highest level went on to observe that this was the case in spite of a personnel policy which failed to handle older officers who could not grasp new techniques, principles and theories, and who attempted to impose less dynamic approaches on the work. Their concern is with the obstacle this poses to the real contribution they feel they can make in their field and the consequences upon their job and grade.

Ι

Personnel Management

1. This section describes Agency performance in several areas of personnel management as viewed by our survey sample.

Table 1 below shows the percentages of favorable and unfavorable reactions in these areas, which will be discussed in turn.

Table 1

Effectiveness of Personnel Management by Percentages of Grades

Action Area	Grades			
	Good	Moderate	Poor	
Abilities, use of	36%	49%	14%	
Advancement, rapidity of	64% (Yes)	7% (Unsure)	29% (Poor)	
Promotion System, reliability of	19%	56%	22% (3% not applicable)	
Reassignments, adequacy of methods used	16%	38%	32% (14% not applicable)	
Reassignments, opportunity to seek other jobs	83% (Yes)		17% (no)	
Reassignments, possibility of Transfers to other Directorates	11%	46%	43%	
Career development, consideration of		31% actory) (not s	13% satisfactory)	

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- 2. In balance, personnel management functions as shown in Table 1, are felt to be performed reasonably well. The criticisms made by the personel interviewed, however, deserves attention and some comment. Negative responses in four of the seven areas shown in the Table are 20% or above, a level at which researchers feel the attitude becomes significant. Qualifications attached to some affirmative answers further indicate the need for attention. For example, while only 17% say it is not really possible to seek new jobs on one's own initiative, more positive answers are sometimes pretty well hedged as to the opportunity or advisability of doing so.

 Similarly, to the extent that mobility is considered desirable, 32% say the process is poor; the 14% recorded as "not applicable" here saying reassignments do not occur in their work.
- 3. Favorable responses are on the more moderate side in every area, except the two where only a positive orangeative answer is possible. This balance toward the more average rating is also heavy, about two-fold, with the exception being the use of ability where only about a third rate it better than average; however, 85% say that their abilities are being used either fully or generally. One factor modifies the generally favorable reaction. This is the time element. While 64% feel they have advanced as rapidly as the should, 75% feel that the promotion system works either well or reasonably well.

- 4. The first area cited in Table 1, the extent to which an individual's abilities are being used, needs no further comment here beyond the evaluations as presented. The second area, the adequacy of personal advancement, can be elaborated and some perspective can be provided. (See Table 3 in the Appendix for the actual advancement rates of the survey group.)
- 5. In terms of the actual number of promotions, 64% of the group feel that they have fared very well; the 29% who have fared poorly in their own judgments may have valid questions. Our review of the survey answers indicates that nearly 2/3 have not been in grade for an undue time, with another 20% having been in grade for two to four years and 12% for four years or more. We cannot evaluate the validity of employees' views of their own progress, and note it here as a factor in their overall attitudes.
- 6. In an internal breakdown of the sample population with respect to advancement, eight percent more among the nine year group feel advancement has not been as good as the younger group. This figure is more interesting than significant especially since much of it is balanced by the response 'uncertain' in the younger group. The differences among the Directorates, however, are somewhat greater. Interviewees from the DDO are less often satisfied than the average for

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the population (14% fewer) while the DDI and DDA have more who are satisfied, 8% and 11% respectively. These differences are explained, at least in part, by the actual distribution of grades and length of service within Directorates. The DDO has 30% more of those of its personnel interviewed are in the lowest grades, with 30%less in the highest grades, while the DDA and DDI people that we interviewed have more favorable balances in both ends of the distribution. It is emphasized that these are the figures for those interviewed and are not offered as representing the grade distributions of the full population. Beyond these facts, which may be related to differences in attitudes about advancement, a few interviewees gave unique reactions. Some who entered with high grades have been satisfied with whatever promotion they may have had, including none, and a few at more or less modest grades feel they have done very well, in terms of their own capabilities. More extreme, a few officers of substantial grade who came to the Agency from private business feel that advancement is too rapid and without justification in some cases. They attribute this to a misguided policy of almost automatic promotion, especially in the lower professional grades.

7. Among those who feel they have not advanced rapidly enough (29% of the total) more than half attribute the problem to management actions affecting personnel in general. These actions include one-step

promotions (which are contrasted with two-step promotions up to GS-11 in other Government Agencies), RIFs and grade freezes, uneven distribution of openings and qualifying personnel among Directorates and components, lack of head room, and time-in-grade requirements. These complaints against management overshadow those made about the handling of the promotion system, i.e. evaluating performance to determine who is to be promoted. In this latter respect, adverse explanations include the failure of responsible officers to recognize the quality of performance per se, the bias being in favor of those working on crisis areas or handling the more dramatic accounts, and personal discrimination. In addition, a few say they have never recovered the ground lost in an original mis-assignment. Some say they have not been given the opportunity to supervise or take the training necessary to advance.

8. Training offered by the Agency was considered favorably overall. Good courses are available, and those taken are most often related to jobs. Where fault is found with training (by some 11%), it is most generally attributed to administrative difficulties such as scheduling difficulties, inability of offices to release the employee, or some breakdown in the process of enrollment. A broader observation, however, is that courses of study are not ear-marked to

fit any progression toward future goals. Several interviewees also comment that things are done in reverse, namely that certain courses are established to provide capabilities needed by the Agency (e.g. management) and that quotas are then placed upon components which simply fill them as a matter of requirement. They believe, rather, that qualified officers should be selected and groomed to fill certain types of positions, and courses run to fit the resulting demand.

- 9. With regard to the promotion system, there is a slight direct correlation between more favorable evaluations and the size of the current grade, the greater the number of promotions, the older the age, and the male sex. There is no pattern with respect to time in grade. This is not to say that these are causative factors, but only that they are reflected in the way the population divides on its attitude toward the promotion system.
- 10. Three quarters of those who grade the promotion system say it functions well or reasonably well. In discussing the system, however, the adverse comments from this group, combined with the 22% who both grade and comment adversely, drop the unqualified positive response to about 50%. The qualifications are made largely by those who grade the system as working "reasonably well" as opposed to "well". (See Table 5 in the Appendix.)

11. In explaining their reaction to the promotion system, just under half (45%) commend it, mainly because it is a fair system in which merit is rewarded or because their personal experience with promotions has been good. The rest (55%) are critical, primarily because they feel that promotions are made arbitrarily. (See Tabulation on Master Questionnaire) Arbitrary action is attributed largely to human weaknesses, e.g., personal contacts and decisions play too large a part, or some types of work attract undue attention and rewards. Much, however, is laid at the door of management for failing to establish precise criteria less immune to individual interpretation, or for questionable policy which provides almost automatic promotions in the lower grades or gives undue weight to seniority and time-in-grade. A second criticism made by some 15% is that more needs to be known about the system, either because they feel there is no real system and individuals propel the activity, or that it is not adequately explained or understood.

12. Fifty-four percent feel that the reassignment process works reasonably well, or better. Many who grade the system favorably nevertheless make critical remarks about the way it is conducted; together, with the group who both rate and comment adversely, these combine to reduce the unqualified positive response to something between one-third and one-quarter of the population. In addition,

14% say that reassignment is not applicable to their jobs or in their offices, where few have ever been known to move out. (See Table 6 in Appendix for cross-index of grades and graded comments.)

13. 32% of those who discussed the reassignment system said there is a good balance between the needs of management and the preferences of individuals, and that efforts are made to accommodate the two in consultation with individual officers concerned. The views of those who feel that management dominates the process are modified by the fact that the handling of reassignments is correspondingly graded "reasonably good" in a few more cases than "not very well." That is to say while 18% feel that management's requirements dominate personal preferences, some feel that their career has not been hurt even though they have not been consulted about their assignments. Even among those who believe that the individual must initiate and even maneuver himself into desired assignments (11%), a number feel this is the preferred situation. The largest group (39%) who say there is no system and no perceivable pattern in the way reassignments are made, however, seems clearly to mean this to be an adverse comment. They say that reassignments, and thus advancement of careers, depend upon who you know, and are random chance at that; or that employees are stuck in some components or occupations who do not wish to be; or that there is no career planning with respect to the sequence of

assignments. Even established rotation slots can be risky, they say, because the parent component makes no preparation to reabsorb officers on return.

14. Three questions in the interview are related to the processes of reassignment. When asked whether they could initiate action to find other jobs, for example, 83% said they had. Many of these qualified their statement by saying one had to know how to go about it without antagonizing his office and that, to be successful, you should be sure to set up the new job firmly before opening the issue. Some based their affirmative response on the hope placed in the new job notice system while also noting many real difficulties with it, such as receiving notices too late for action, learning that jobs had been filled from within an office, and running into administrative obstacles in trying to follow up on such notices. The nature of many of these remarks lead us to believe that individual initiative is still very important and alive, at least in the minds of men.

15. In a second area related to reassignments namely the opportunity to cross Directorate boundaries, over half (57%) feel it is possible, while the balance of those answering feel it is only seldom possible or not at all. By and large, there is a strong attachment to the component, and Directorate, in which people do their actual work. This attachment is demonstrated in the answers to another

question, in which 91% of those answering said they considered their office and Directorate to be better than or equal to others known to them. The fact that 32% of the sample population failed to give an answer is explained, we believe, by lack of information about other Directorates and not any reluctance to express an adverse opinion.

The last area of personnel management activities, the consideration of career futures with officers, is difficult to characterize because it has many facets. Experience among our sample population varies substantially in the substance and level at which the discussions are held, as well as in the reality of their situations and their own expectations. It is a formal, comprehensive process in some components, but more generally it is informal and related to only one or another aspect of a career. While those questioned might say they had discussed their future career, as three-fourths did, a simple majority talked with their supervisor and the rest spread their contacts among a more senior officer, a component's career officer, and a personnel officer. Many (43%) initiated the discussion, while it came about for others, in order of percentages, in routine reassignment questionnaires of varying character, in conjunction with the Fitness Report, by a personnel officer or even by random opportunity. The subject or subjects discussed varied accordingly, ranging across overall discussions (56%) which varied widely in substance and

practicality, possible assignments, down simply to evaluations of performance.

17. Despite the several dimensions touched upon above, a few relevant observations can be made about the processes for handling this loosely assigned function. First, we interject the note that satisfaction with these discussions seems to decline with longevity; about 8% fewer of the nine-year group are satisfied than in the fouryear group. Among Directorates, the sample from the DDO is more satisfied than the others, 5% more are satisfied and fewer are dissatisfied than the average. With regard to the overall assessments of the total population, 81% say the discussion was satisfactory and of this the majority (58%) attribute the cause to responsive and encouraging exchanges. Opportunities had been suggested, they say, and capabilities had been frankly discussed and questions answered. Another group (11%), somewhat in the same vein, say that the discussion was good, within the limits of the possible. This pretty much depicts the situation, that is, for the most part the maximum function in the field is to clarify opportunities and hopes with respect to more or less specific career tracks, and to recognize that advancement toward them is a joint endeavor for which the individual is also responsible. One group of 14%, however, say that the discussion was good because

they did get concrete results, namely, what they wanted by way of an assignment, substantial training or the like. We believe that this sample population either recognizes or is resigned to the present situation, this being demonstrated by the small percentage (11%) of critical remarks.

- of 66 who had not talked about their future with any officer. Their answers, in contrast to those above, which concentrated more on general understandings about possibilities, while recognizing the limits of practical results, were almost all in terms of practical consequences. About half felt that the informal system of determining careers worked all right, that they could manage by themselves, and that no purpose was to be served by formal discussions. The other half largely felt that it would be useless to discuss their careers because of obstacles in the "system" or management officers. Only a few expanded the dimension of the subject to say that any formal discussion of careers would be relatively without purpose until a policy of career development had been enunciated and put into practice throughout the Agency.
- 19. One further remark can be made about career development.

 At the end of the interview we asked if there were any comment they wished to make and 125 interviewees responded. One-fourth of these

say that they believed there should be more opportunity to develop a career.

II

Supervisory Management

1. We asked for evaluations and sometimes comments in several areas of management's use of manpower. The questions ranged from the more personalized, i.e. the extent to which the employee's abilities are used in an office, to ones of less direct personal involvement, i.e. the way functions of the office are organized with respect to overall objectives. The Table below presents the distribution of grades given these largely supervisory functions, which will be discussed in turn.

Table 2

Effectiveness of Supervision in the Use of Manpower

by percentage of grades given (1)

Supervisory Function		Grade	
Use of abilities of subordinates	<u>Good</u> 36%	Moderate 49%	<u>Poor</u> 14%
Supervision of work of subordinates	71%	17%	8%
Communication of Information needed to perform job	63%	27%	7%
Letter of Instruction	10%	20%	48% [22% not applicable]
Division of work and responsibility within the office	39%	49%	9%
Organization of the office with respect to its objectives	35%	49%	11%

⁽¹⁾ The percentages do not total 100% in the rows because interviewees sometimes feel the question does not apply to their situation.

- 2. About half of those interviewed believe that their abilities are used moderately well in their current jobs, with a little over a third feeling they are used fully. This is a very favorable reaction, we believe, because many who make the more moderate evaluation recognize they are performing more modest tasks often while learning the dimensions of particular functions.
- 3. The small group of 38 who believe their abilities are underused attribute the problem to three general causes, one of which is poor supervision. Most say that the jobs they hold do not require their level of abilities, and the remainder that the job is too narrowly designed to permit some supervisory experience, which they want and for which they feel qualified. Comments were requested only on negative evaluations and are too few to do more than call attention to them. In the first case abilities are said to be underused because the chief, who has been promoted from the ranks more often then not, takes the best accounts for himself and leaves more than one good officer with either very lean or drab pickings. This type of problem belongs to the next level of management. The feeling that the job does not make a full claim on abilities includes cases of assigning over-qualified people to lesser jobs, as well as over-stating the requirements actually needed. A separate question was asked about

job requirements and drew a negative response from 14% of those interviewed to the effect that they were not appropriate to the actual work. Many who do not know what the formal requirements are, feel that their job fits them pretty well; however, some feel that they have higher degrees which are not needed. Others say that they have succeeded with only high school educations but that new requirements had or were being placed on their jobs, to wit, higher degrees. They feel that this is one more move to reduce the opportunity for people to advance in the Agency on the basis of ability and hard work; that it is discriminatory; that it is part of a trend toward bureaucracy.

4. The role of supervisor per se (the second item on Table 2) is rated overall as the best performed among the functions of supervision, followed closely by a directly related function, the communication of information needed to carry out assigned work. The supervisor is given more good grades and fewer poor grades by a wide margin over the other functions. Some 70% of the interviewees pronounce the supervision they receive to be good, and a majority of the remainder say it is "fair". The explanations accompanying the grades give rise to two generalizations. First, evaluations of "good" are not just for positive acts in the eyes of subordinates, but the absence of undue restrictions over their own work, -- generally, therefore, for the

absence of close supervision. Second, the less favorable explanations, which are linked heavily to supervision regarded as "fair" as well as "poor", do not charge individual supervisors so much as the management which put them there.

- 5. Nine year veterans tend to be a little less generous in their grading of supervision than their colleagues of four years, with a spread of 10% between their ratings. Among the Directorates, Administration personnel score their supervisors down, in contrast to Operations personnel, who award a higher grade to their supervisors. The other two Directorates are close to the average figure for the population, Intelligence being more generous by 5% and S&T less by the same amount.
- 6. What is wanted and what is expected of supervision, of course, vary with individuals and their status. But answers have one factor in common and to this extent reflect a smaller range of differences then the figures otherwise imply. This common factor is the hope of being allowed to exert their full abilities on their own initiative as far as possible. (See Table 3 in the Appendix for a ranking of supervision, by comments). For example, those who feel that supervision is "good" give three major reasons for their opinion, two of which are given also by some who grade it "fair". The largest group feel that the office situation fosters rapport and team effort among

colleagues to produce positive results. The supervisor may or may not be much involved, but if he does not actively promote interaction, he is available and there is mutual respect. The second explanation, in terms of the number of personnel giving it, is that supervisors treat: their subordinates as professionals who know their job, are expected to do it, and are given considerable latitude in carrying it out; this explanation is elaborated by some to say that the assignment is clearly established and assistance is available if the subordinate feels the need. The third major reason is that the supervisor is well qualified and respected in his substantive field. This usually means that he is a leader in his field whose counsel or criticism on work is productive; he is a man to be followed and listened to in this respect. Whether he exerts any "supervisory" action, is consequently considered secondary.

7. With regard to differences in grading supervision, there is little between nine and four year personnel, but the DDO attributes 11% more of its favorable comments than the average to officers who are respected in their field, and 4% more to effective working relations in an office. This is balanced in the DDO by 10% fewer critical comments than the average, while the DDS&T make 9% more. The reasons given for evaluations of "poor", which amount to 8% (or 25%)

when the grade of fair is added) are that supervision is inconsistent and not reliable, or that the supervisor is untrained or simply poor at the task. A few feel that the immediate supervisor's function has been wiped out by the strength of a higher echelon, or contrariwise, that so many administrative tasks have been placed on the supervisor that he cannot oversee the operations of his office.

- 8. We have long heard the attitude expressed that strong substantive officers are pushed into supervisory-management positions for which they are not qualified. While this attitude might be confirmed by some in our sample, we are impressed by the fact that 71% feel that supervision is good -- not fair (another 17%). Further, different attributes are credited for good supervision including, solely, leadership in a substantive field. Whether these different attributes -- i.e., excellence in a field, responsiveness, and free rein, correlate with particular types of jobs, offices, or people, we cannot say, but we believe they are interchangeable to a large extent. If this is the case, the Agency's overall supervisory talent is better than hearsay would have one believe.
- 9. At the same time we do not mean to ignore the 25% who are critical of supervision in one respect or another (17% fair, 8% poor). This is too large a group to be complacent about. But we are struck with the fact, more often implicit then explicit, that our interviewees tend

to fault higher management for what is wrong, rather than immediate office supervisors with whom they appear to sympathize if not identify. The explanatory phrases in critical remarks about supervisors use only slightly different words, namely that men are forced into such positions; they are not given training; they are not prepared; they cannot handle two jobs simultaneously. One interviewee, a supervisor himself, came to the interview with a rack-up of administrative papers he had handled in a three month period and left him no time, properly speaking, to supervise the operations of his office.

- 10. The flow of information needed by officers to do their assigned work, a function related to supervision, is evaluated about the same as supervision in general, although interviewees tend to grade it a little more in the moderate range. Poor communication is attributed by almost all of a small group, 8% of the total, to the fact that management filters out much information as it passes down the channel of staff meetings, or that the interpretation of what is passed down becomes so watered as to be relatively without substance.
- 11. The Letter of Instruction (LOI) has yet to prove itself to our personnel as an instrument for supervision. Slightly over half of the population believe it is impractical, or of help only in a few types of positions or at the start of jobs; or they are unsure that it is useful at all. Another substantial group (16%) is unable to give an opinion

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largely because they didnot have an LOI when interviewed, or (6%) is unsure since experience with the LOI is limited. In explaining why it is impractical, even though they feel the concept may have sounded good, interviewees say it merely duplicates the Fitness Report or the job description; or, it is stereotyped almost from the beginning and lacks the unique dynamic aspect expected; or, it is unnecessary since there is good communication with the supervisor. In support of the importance of good communication as a normal supervisory function, some feel the LOI is a good instrument because it requires direct discussions with the supervisor which they have not had. In general terms, many view the LOI with amusement, or even cynicism, as a bureaucratic exercise and treat it as such. The first reaction of a great many of the question was a quizical smile and a shrug.

12. Those who view the LOI favorably, about a third of the survey population, give a range of positive explanations which pretty much coincide with its purposes i.e., it is effective in setting tasks, responsibilities and goals; it is a useful management tool in stimulating communication between supervisor and subordinate; and, it sets firm responsibilities for subordinates against which they know their performance will be judged. Some, but not many, say that the LOI includes some planning ahead for their own development.

- 13. A large part of this sample population look upon the LOI as an instrument imposed by management and variously handled by supervisors. The criticism or blame is directed more at management than at individual supervisors.
- 14. If the LOI is to become more successful, it will have to be taken more seriously by a good many officers; it will have to be initiated by the supervisor rather than being a product of the subordinate; it will have to do more than duplicate other management instruments; it will have to contain something dynamic for positions which do not themselves change much over time; and it will have to be demonstrated to some that it is not an instrument designed by management to support charges of inadequate performance.
- 15. The two remaining major supervisory management functions, namely the way in which work and responsibility are delineated in an office, and the way it is organized overall to meet its objectives, are evaluated by most as either well (39%) or reasonably well (49%) performed, with the balance toward the more moderate grade. Only some 9% believe that either of these functions is poorly handled. When the evaluations given by interviewees to the two functions are cross indexed, about one-third rate them differently, usually but not always by one grade difference, i.e., good on one and moderate on the other. [See Table 4 in the Appendix for a cross index of these evaluations.]

16. Interviewees were also asked whether they felt they had any opportunity to influence the way their office is organized. There is an even division of 47% who feel they have a moderate or better chance (heavily weighted to the latter) and 47% who think they have little or none (about equally divided). There are no hard facts to interpret this response, i.e., we do not know to what extent this group could in fact expect to influence an office's organization. do know, however, that half of the sample is in GS-11 or lower and that almost two-thirds have been with the Agency not more than five years. We also know that 80% to 85% believe the requirements for their jobs are appropriate, and that their abilities are being reasonably well used at this time. Given these facts and attitudes, the feeling of so many that there is an opportunity to influence an office, seems to indicate a healthy identification with an office. This reaction seems to share a common base with that expressed on supervision, namely the belief or hope that the individual can make a personal impact upon the work of this Agency.

17. One further question was asked with respect to the effective use of manpower, this one with respect to the extent to which the office is achieving its objectives. The combined evaluations of good and moderate is 95% -- higher than that for any of the supervisory

functions treated here. The 49% "good" ratings is also greater than the proportion of this rating for how responsibility is divided in the office (39%) or how it is organized (35%). Further with respect to this higher evaluation of achievement, the nine year group gives a higher rating of good than the four year group, with a spread of 10% between them.

- 18. There are no hard facts to explain why the evaluation of the achievement of objectives is higher than that accorded the performance of supervisory functions, which might be considered directly related to such production. The differences are interesting rather than significant. Whereas a total of 106 interviewee's gave the same grades on each separate question, 49 who say the division of responsibility is well performed rate achievement as only reasonably good, while 65 say the division of responsibility is only reasonably good but that achievement is better.
- 19. Whether the slightly higher evaluation given to achievement is significant or not, we believe that the overall favorable response rests on a basic factor noted above, namely a high degree of identification with the work of an office. This interpretation gains support in the response to a question about the mental tone, that is the intellectual approach to work in an office. Four choices were offered to this question on which one third said the intellectual approach to work was vigorous and 46%

said alert. In both of these cases, some normal qualifications were made with respect to peaks and valleys and to smaller or larger sections of offices or components. A more striking qualification, however, was about older personnel. The charge was made that some had retired in place, while others were unable to adjust to more advanced techniques and approaches. Interviewees with these views felt that "management" should develop personnel policies to cope with this deadwood, freeing them and their colleagues from this anachronistic influence. From another viewpoint, some were willing to say that their offices were less than alert in their approach to work. Even when this admission was made, individuals largely dissociated themselves and attributed the cause to management difficulties, some of it to personnel, and finally to uninspiring work. The thread which seems present in responses to many questions is not only personal identification with an office or group, but with a real or wished for dynamic, productive work situation.

III

The Agency as a Place for a Career

- 1. We approached a general or net evaluation of the Agency from three angles. First, by asking for an assessment of the individual's future career potential, and intent to remain with the Agency. Second by inquiring into the reasons for the evaluation made of the Agency place to work. Last, by ascertaining the causes of the state of morale in the Agency as they felt it to be.
- 2. The meaning of evaluations is often subject to interpretation as to whether an evaluation is intended, for example, to be just average or above average. Notwithstanding this difficulty, we believe that somewhere betwee 80% and 90% of this survey population believe that their careers and the Agency are substantial and attractive. While morale is an elusive quality and on occasion was depicted as being somewhat less sturdy, the causes attributed to this condition are not directly rleated to internal factors which strongly attract officers to the Agency, but more to external forces.
- 3. Most officers believe they can have a career in the Agency which is at least generally satisfying. A smaller percentage, however, say they intend to remain with the Agency, and some of these

qualify their intent as limited to the foreseeable future, -- perhaps five years. Against 8% who do not anticipate a very satisfying career here, 2% say they do not intend to remain and 16% (43) are uncertain. We do not know all of the specific reasons for this uncertainty, but they include a simple preference for living elsewhere, greater opportunity for advancement elsewhere, and dissatisfaction with personnel status or the Agency.

- 4. There is little difference about intent among the Directorates, except for Administration where no officer says he intends to leave. There is a spread of 13% between the four- and the nine-year groups. Fewer of the four-year group intend to stay, the number of those who are uncertain is substantially higher, and 3% intend to leave in contrast to the 1% for the nine-year group.
- 5. The overall picture of intent suggests that a slightly larger percentage might contemplate withdrawal than the number that has separated annually over the past five years. In contrast, the fact that commitment is firmer at nine years than at four may well suggest that the percentage leaving will not be greater. No firm conclusion, however, can be drawn from this data, nor is there any formula to estimate the relation of intent to action.
- 6. The picture described above, correctly we believe, is strongly positive. This is not to say there are not negative aspects of a magnitude

to attract attention. Nor is it to ignore the fact that a sizeable share of the favorable response rests in the more average ratings and may or may not have the vitality to survive some types of adversity.

These qualifying facets are noted as relevant in the discussion below.

7. Almost without exception, interviewees use only the highest three grades of a five-point scale to evaluate the Agency as a place to work, and rank it in order as very good, excellent, good. They concentrate their reasons for their evaluations on one facet, namely, dynamic work and working relations, as demonstrated in the following table:

Table 7

Positive and Negative Attributes of the Agency as a Place to Work

	ributes							
	ked by % of		Average Grade i	Average Grade for the Agency				
	erviewees		by Rank of Attri					
Citi	ng each	Total %		Excellent				
1.	Good administration provides job satis-faction	31.4%	1 (15.5%)	2 (9.8%)	1 (6.1%)			
2.	Opportunity to pursue a professional career in depth	27.3%	2 (10.6%)	1 (13.3%)	3 (3.4%)			
3.	High quality of personnel	15.2%	3 (7.2%)	3 (6.8%)	4 (1.5%)			
4.	Importance of Agency mission and role	12.5%	4 (4.9%)	4 (6.4%)	5 (.8%)			
5.	Poor personnel and management policy or treatment	11%	5 (2.7%)		2 (5.3%)			
6.	Other	2.7%						

- 8. There is no clear correlation between the rank given for several features attributed to the Agency and the overall grade but there are some interesting comparisons. Good administration which promotes job satisfaction and opportunity to pursue a profession are ranked highest in each of the three grades, with a minor exception. Those who rate the Agency as only a good place to work, are critical of the opportunity to pursue a professional career, while those who feel the Agency is an excellent place, put particular stress upon this opportunity. The purported high quality of personnel scores a little ahead of the importance of the Agency mission and role.
- 9. Job satisfaction and good administration is wider in scope than the other categories and includes a small group who speak of job security and the personnel-oriented policies of this organization. For most, the reason is more directly related to the job, namely, an opportunity to advance in a career, -- e.g. responsibilities are given to individuals, and bureaucracy is not over-developed; and jobs are made stimulating through lateral movement, travel, recognition by supervisors, contact with a vareity of functions and interesting people, and by the mutual respect bestowed. Some thirty-two percent of the sample population feel that the Agency is a good place to work because of these factors, and they often contrast these to what they feel to be

the case in other government agencies, where things are more impersonal, inflexible, or structured.

- 10. The opportunity to pursue in depth the profession for which they had trained was cited as the attractive feature of the Agency by about a quarter of the sample population. Where else, they asked, could they find as good an outlet for the use of economic or political science or other professional capabilities; where else would the state of the art and the level of inquiry be so far in the forefront; or where would such independence and initiative be given the individual to pursue his work. These answers, and particularly the last, coincide to a great extent with those given to describe good supervision -- i.e. delegated responsibility and a free rein.
- 11. Those who commented voluntarily upon the possibility of a satisfying career ahead, often focused on the meaningfulness of their work, -- i.e, on the fact it was used, that it made a contribution. In citing the important role of the Agency as the reason for its being a good place to work, interviewees used much the same terms, -- worthwhile job, meaningful work, being used by someone who needs it. They would not work here, many said, if they did not feel their work was useful and that they were being productive.

- 12. The critical comments about the Agency made by 11% of the survey sample relate only to a limited extent to the dynamics of the work situation described above. The rather widely spread observations can be grouped roughly under criticism of personnel treatment and of management in general. With respect to the latter, they felt that resources are poorly used, that there is bureaucratic inertia, and that individuals are not given enough independence to make their full contribution. In most cases, the consequences of actions on the individual are the prime concern, namely, job insecurity, shabby or unfair personal treatment, slow promotions, inequitable assignments, and sex discrimination.
- 13. Explanations of the state of morale give some direct support to the assessment of the Agency as a good place to work. On one hand, a positive approach is taken where morale is rated as good or very good, and this is attributed most often to the attractive work situation as described above. On the other hand, where a negative approach is taken, it is more often where morale is felt to be only fair and the effort is to explain why it is not higher. These explanations cite the intrusion of external problems to a heavy extent.
- 14. Sixty percent of those who felt able to evaluate morale (20 people did not) said it was very good or good; the other 40% largely thought it was fair though a few placed it at poor.

15. Close to 100 people spoke of the Schlesinger period, and of current problems -- actual or threatened RIFs reorganizations and external problems such as Marchetti, as the primary factors affecting morale. Their appraisal of these factors however, do not always coincide with their overall evaluation of morale. Those who mentioned the problems of the Schlesinger period distributed their grades of good and fair, three to two; those who stressed current problems distributed their grades at about one to three, good to fair. In other words, while a majority feel that the Agency has recovered from the events of the Schlesinger period, more feel that current problems are now keeping morale down.

16. Internal weaknesses were cited by 40 to 50 people as the cause of what they viewed as lower morale. Some of these were attributed to management, e.g. the handling of current problems such as retirements and job reductions and the Marchetti case. In a special question on this case over 50% of those polled criticized the Agency's handling and the consequent damage to its reputation. While the remarks critical of internal performance were not always well formulated, others which touched upon management were with respect to bureaucratic burdens, inadequate management decisions, poor supervision, and the retention of no longer useful old timers. Problems with promotions, assignments, and job satisfaction were attributed to personnel practices.

17. Some people who found it difficult to account for their comparatively good feeling about the state of morale, attributed it in general terms to the way people act, that is to their businesslike attitude toward the job (no slacking off, getting to the job on time, no horsing around), the absence of demoralizing talk in the corridors and the cafeteria, and to the generally happy work atmosphere prevailing at the time. However, there is a latent unease with respect to job security, which is reflected in part in the weight of fair and poor assessments of morale -- i.e. 40%, which is a substantially larger balance in this direction than evaluations of Agency performance.

This unease is related to the future of the Agency as affected largely by external developments.



APPENDIX A

Tables 3-9

Table 3

Evaluation of Supervision by rank of the reason within each grade

Reason for Grade Ranked by percent Giving it

Grade Given Supervision Ranked

	_		
	1. Good	2. Fair	3. Poor
1. Effective working relations in the office	1 (30%)	2.3 (1.9%)	
2. Free rein given to work	2 (24%)	2.3 (1.9%)	
3. Supervisor is respected	3 (16%)		4
4. Supervision is inconsistent		1 (8%)	1 (4.7%)
5. Other		2.3 (1.3%)	3 (2.3%)
6. Supervisor is poor or untrained			2 (1.5%)
_Total *	190 (73%)	44 (17.8%)	22 (8.5%)

^{*} Percentages exceed the actual column totals because not all of the grades are included, i.e. up only to rank 3.

NOTE: Highlights on the rankings and correlations indicated are as follows:

Those who find supervision to be only fair, or poor, attribute the fault directly to the supervisor.

The 70% who find supervision good or fair, on the other hand, generally describe a situation which permits them full exercise of their capabilities, including the availability of an expert to whom they may turn.

The group grading supervision "fair" seem to lean toward a poorer assessment, the majority in this group finding supervision to be inconsident (sometimes meaning untrustworthy in the sense of being countermanded).

It should be noted further that about 10% of the survey population was unable to assess supervision, mostly because they occupied positions characterized as independent assign-

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Table 4

Relation Between Evalutions of the Division of Work and Responsibility in an jOffice and the Organization of an Office Per Its Objectives

Work and Office Organization Responsibilities Per Objectives	ROW
A Thaire a no	TOTAL
Reasonably Not too well Not Well well or poorly applicable	
Well 58 351 9	102
Reasonably 33 81 12 6 well	132
Poorly 3 13 6 1	23
Not 1 1 1 6 applicable	9
TOTAL 95 130 28 13	266

NOTE: Marginal figures are the total for each grade for each function, row total for how responsibilities are divided, column totals for the way the office is structured or organized.

Internal figures crossindex the grades given the two functions, showing their similarity or dissimilarity, i.e. well for both, well for one but reasonably well for the other, etc. Grades which correlate for the two functions are circled, those which deviate, and thus suggest different causes, are boxed.

Highlights include the following: marginal totals give rather similar overall grading, i.e.

95 to 102 "well" for each function (about 38%) 130 to 132 "reasonably well" (about 49%)

"not too well" or poorly" (about 11%) 28 to 23

However, the internal cross index shows that the same persons did not always give the same grade to each function;

56 persons grade both well,

81 persons grade both reasonably well, and

6 persons grade both as poor.

Then, 68 persons mix their grades, i.e. 33 and 35 respectively grade one function well and the other reasonably well, or

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Table 5

Evaluation of Promotion System

System Rated

Comments Made About the System

•	Favorable			favorable	٠	
	Merit Rewarded	Fared Well Personally	Seniority Over-em- phasized	Arbitrary	More needs to be known	ROW TOTAL
Favorable Well Reasonably	16	25	1	3	1	46
well	45	28	2	43	13 _	<u>137</u> 183
Unfavorable Not very well	2	1	2	32	7	44
Poorly	-	-	2	7	1	10 54
TOTAL	111	7		120		237

NOTE: Marginal figures are the total for each grade given (row) and each comment (column).

Internal figures cross-index the grades with the comments and show the extent to which they coincide. Figures which are circled have a reasonable correlation; those boxed indicate a deviation between the grade and the nature of the comment.

Highlights of the table include the following:
whereas 183 (row margin) grade the promotion system favorably
only 117 cite favorable aspects in their comments (column margin).
Further, the grand total is 237, which means that, some 39 feel
too uninformed to make a judgment.

Those who make the same general comment, grade the system differently, for example 16 who say merit is rewarded grade the system "well" but 45 grade it as functioning "reasonably well" in contrast to an even split in the grades between "well" and "reasonably well" for those who say they have fared well.

The 120 who comment on unfavorable aspects of the system, distribute their grades rather evenly between favorable (69) and not (51). Grades and explanations of them deviate in 72 cases, in general, all of which suggests the need for deeper inquiry.

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Table 6 Evaluation of the Reassignment Process

Process Rated	Comm	ents Made Abou					
Favorable			Unfavorable				
Management and Individual in- terests are Balanced	Individual is well served	Management Dominates the process	Individual Must Maneuver	There is no System	ROW TOTAL		
Favorable Well 31 Reasonably well 34) ₄	1 20	1	1 28	38 90 128		
Unfavorable Not very well -		15	6	3 ¹ 4	55		
Poorly	. *** ***	1	6	17	- 24 7911:		
TOTAL 70			137		207		

Marginal figures are the total for each grade (row) and NOTE: each comment (column).

Internal figures cross-index the grades with the comments and show the extent to which they coincide. Figures which are circled indicate a reasonable degree of correlation; those which are boxed indicate a deviation between the grade and nature of the comment.

Highlights of the table include the following: whereas 128 (row total) grade the process favorably, 70 cite favorable aspects (column total). Put another way, while only 79 grade the process as more or less poor, 137 make unfavorable comments on the way it is handled. Further, 69 were too uninformed to comment.

Grades and comments correlate reasonably well in 149 cases (but still leave room for further inquiry) but 58 cases deviate to a greater extent.

Among those that correlate reasonably well, 79 are favorable with respect to the process and 70 are unfavorable.

Table 7

Positive and Negative Attributes of the Agency as a Place to Work

	Attributes ranked by % of				•
-	interviewees citing each		Average Grad by Rank of Att	_	
		Total %	1. Very Good 2		
	 Good administration provides job satis- faction 	31.4%	1 (15.5%)	2 (9.8%)	1 (6.1
	 Opportunity to pursue a professional career in depth 	27.3%	2 (10.6%)	1 (13.3%)	3 (3.4
	3. High quality of personnel	15.2%	3 (7.2%)	3 (6.8%)	4 (1.5
	4. Importance of Agency mission and role	12.5%	4 (4.9%)	4 (6.4%)	5 (.8%
	5. Poor personnel and management policy or treatment	11%	5 (2.7%)		2 (5.3
i	6. Other	2.7%			

Table ⁸

Career Service by Length of Service and Current Grade by Number and Percentage(1)

·						
Current						
Grade		Career	Service and	Length of Se	rvice	·
<u>Orace</u>	TOTAL	Admin	Opers	Intel	S&T	TOTAL
	4 9	4 9	4 9	4 9	4 9	
7–8 %	17 8 9%	2 4 13%	10 3 27%	4 -	1 1 2%	26*
9 %	26 16 11%	3 - 6%	12 4 33%	4 1 6%	7 1 9%	32
10-11 %	73 12 31%	8 2 21%	10 - 21%	29 6 39%	26 4 35%	85
12-13 %	37 43 30%	7 7 30%	- 8 17%	18 19 41%	12 9 24%	81*
14 & up %	18 32 19%	4 10 30%	- 1 2%	2 7	12 14 30%	51*
TOTAL	171 101 63% 37%	24 23 50% 50%	32 16 67% 33%	57 33 63% 37%	58 29 67% 33%	275

⁽¹⁾ Three personnel from the Executive area have been omitted from this Table, except in the totals with asteriks each of which includes one person from the Executive area. The grand total is one short because information on one of the variants was lacking.

Table 9

Career Service by Length of Service and Number of Promotions(1) by Number and Percentage

		•					
	Number of	1.	ł				•
	Promotions		Career	Service and	Length of S	ervice	
-		TOTAL	Admin	Opers	Intel	S&T	TOTAL
		4 9	4 9	4 9	4 9	4 9	
	None	- 7 3	2 -		1 -	4 3	. 10
	%	2.7%	4.2%		1%	8%	
	0ne	26 11	3 4	3 1	8 1	12 5	37
	%	13.7%	14.5%	8%	10%	19.8%	
	The same	60 8	7 2	15 1	16 3	22 2	C04
-	Two %	60 8 25.2%	18.8%	15 1 35%	16 3 21%	22 2 28%	69*
,	/6	23.2%	10.0%	33%	21%	20%	
	Three	47 11	5 1	10 3	20 4	12 3	58
-	%	21.5%	12.5%	28.5%	26.7%	17.5%	50
		-2.5%	221370	-013%	2007/3	27.13%	
	Four	22 11	5 4	2 2	9 3	6 2	34*
		12.3%	18.8%	9%	13.3%	9.2%	
						!	
	Five or	. '		1		i	
	more	6 58	2 13	- 9	3 22	1 14	65*
	%	23.7%	31.2%	19.5%	28%	17.5%	
	TIOM AT	160 100	0/ 0/	20 16			070
	TOTAL	168 102	24 24	30 16	57 33	57 29	273
_		1					

⁽¹⁾ Three personnel from the Executive area have been omitted from this Table, except in the totals with asteriks each of which includes one person from the Executive area. The grand total is three short because information on one of the variants was lacking.



APPENDIX B

Population Profile

Population Profile

In mid to late summer 1974 the IG's Staff interviewed 276 employees to see how they felt about certain aspects of the Agency and their careers in it. They constituted 86 percent of an adjusted population made up of all those assigned to positions in headquarters who, on the one hand, were classified as having professional status and, on the other hand, had been with the Agency for four (up to five) or nine (up to ten) years. They were selected because they had been with the Agency long enough to have an informed view but not necessarily committed to a career; and because resignations among professional employees cluster to a small extent at these two periods of service. This selection of those who may not yet have made up their minds about a career in the Agency also means that there is an omission of those who are more likely to hold the higher grades and management positions. The survey population is, in other respects, a reasonable cross section of the Agency, representing working level employees.

The DDI and DDS&T each accounted for about 90; the DDA and DDO each had 48. (See Tables 2 and 3 in the appendix for distribution of personnel by length of service, current grade, and number of promotions within each Directorate.)

By length of service, the four year group is the larger being twothirds of the total (actually 62%). The Directorate for Administration has the only significant variation, dividing equally between the four and the nine year groups.

Grade distribution among the several Directorates varies significantly. The total population breaks roughly into equal parts between those in grades 11 and below, and p2 and above, but the lowest grades (7 and 8) account for only 9% in this division. In this division, there are two substantial divergences among the Directorates. The DDA has 10% fewer in the lower grades while the DDO has 30% more than the average for the whole. Both of these are counterbalanced in the grade 12-and-above groups, where DDA has 10% more and DDO 30% less. When the middle grade group (9-11) is removed and the lowest and higher groups are compared, there are further differences among Directorates. The DDI and the DDS&T have almost none in the lower group and slightly over 50% (close to the distribution for the total population) of their respective groups in the higher. The DDA has 60% in the higher grades (i.e. 12 and up), however, with the DDO having only 19%.

Methodology

A questionnaire was prepared with pre-coded answers for about two-thirds of the questions. The remainder were open-ended and asked for explanations of answers already given. The two types of questions combine to yield more meaning from measurable responses.

The answers to each of the open-ended questions were grouped, to the extent that they could be purposefully classified, and then coded for machine application. This process was handled by two inspectors working independently and the collaborating on the final classification for each question. As the answers were often in narrative fashion rather than adjectival, they required review. To classify this two inspectors considered and agreed upon the assignment of respondents' answers to the categories established for each question.

The questionnaires were administered and filled in by five inspectors in interviews which lasted from one half to over an hour. While explanations and questions were presented according to a generally agreed format, all inspectors were assigned to conduct interviews in all directorates to avoid any unintended bias resulting from one inspectors concentrating in a single directorate.

Reflections on Methods

The open-ended question demands more work in administering and analyzing interviews, but it has certain inherent advantages over the

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structured or pre-coded question. By definition it elicits individual responses, thus permitting self-selectivity and more range than the rigidly structured format. The effect in this study is to qualify the answer or rating given to a structured question in several ways.

One qualification is in the different level of appreciation from which interviewees see situations. The effectiveness of the organization of an office, for example, may be considered by some as simply the absence of handicap in pursuing work, or it may be viewed as an effective meshing of functions. The answer in the first instance could be considered neutral, or even spurious, but in a machine tabulation of simple grades it is given equal weight with the more positive response. We have endeavored to catch these variations and measure them.

A second qualification is in the different dimensions of the appraisals by employees. Most, for example, rate their own offices high on achieving stated objectives. Some however are skeptical about the validity of the ultimate ends to which their work contributes and question whether their own work (objectives) is as effectively directed as might be. The message from this larger dimension of response is that it avails the Agency little to know that personnel believe their office objectives to be well met, if they also believe these are off the mark or of little value. We have sought these evaluation judgments.

Table 10

Personnel in the Survey Sample
by Directorate and Number Interviewed

	Total	NOT	Interviewed		
<u>Directorate</u>	<u>Sample</u>	Interviewed	Number	<u>Percentage</u>	
DCI Area	3	0	3	100%	
M&S	53	5	48	90.56%	
DDO	61	13	48	78.68%	
DDI	98	8	90	91.83%	
S&T*	102	15	87	86%	
Total	317	41	276	86.75%	

^{*} Figures adjusted down from 133 to 102. 31 personnel from NPIC were deleted from its total sample population of 61% on a matched basis, retaining as far as possible the original proportion of personnel with 4 and 9 years service. The total sample population was consequently reduced from 348 to 317.

A third qualification is the different significance that people attach to various Agency functions. For example, reassignment is a relatively unimportant subject to some, but their responses on this point are given the same weight in a structured question as are the answers of others for whom reassignment is important and who judge the system from their own experience. Importance or meaningfulness is perhaps even more apparent with respect to the Agency's mission. This is significantly important to some -- this is why they work here and the source of their job satisfaction. Others, however, may believe that the Agency's mission is important, but it may be of little direct consequence on their actions or morale. We have sought to clarify the personal -- and perhaps subjective -- views.

We have made this brief methodological explanation, among other reasons, because our intent in the survey is to present a qualitative analysis of the attitudes of personnel toward Agency performance and their careers. While there is a mathematical base, we are primarily interested in comparing open-ended answers with specific evaluations to get the feel of officers toward the Agency and their careers. While this lacks the precise statistical calculation of standard deviations possible with questionnaries structured to measure degrees, it takes

into consideration observations which arise out of open-ended questions and that are sometimes more important of themselves than the number who commented. The apparent evaluations of even substantial majorities, may be reduced in their significance when consideration is given the forces which bear upon those evaluations. We have sought to catch some of these qualities in the attitudes of personnel interviewed for this survey.

APPENDIX C

Questions



Individual Interviews were classified SECRET (when filled in)
but when the results were consolidated in the attached form in
a general Summary they lost the classification and are marked
for handling as ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY.

Headquarters Interview Program

Professional Personnel with four and nine years of service

Background Variables

						•		
1.	Current Grade			6.	Ti	me-In Grade		
	1. Seven-eight	26	9%		1.	One or less	189	69%
• .	2. Nine	31	11%		2.	Two-Three years	52	19%
	3. Ten-eleven	85	31%		3.	Four-Five years	25	9%
	4. Twelve-thirteen	81	30%		4.	Six years or more	9	3%
	5. Fourteen and over	51	19%			•	275	•
		274		7.	Le	ngth of Service	•	
2.	Number of Promotions				1.	Four years	171	62%
	*EOD Grade				2.	Nine years	105	38%
	1. None	10	4%			•	276	• -
•	2. One	37	14%	*8.	Ot]	her Government Sei	vice	
	3. Two	68	25%		1.	None	139	$51_{00}^{\sigma_{00}}$
	4. Three	58	21%	-	2.	One-Two years	45	17%
	5. Four	34	12%		3.	Three-Five yrs.	64	23%
	6. Five or more	<u>65</u>	24%		4.	Six-Eight yrs.	12	4%
		272		•	5.	Nine or more	13	5%
3.	Career Service						273	
	1. Exec.	3	1%	*9.	Nu	mber of transfers t	0	
	2. M	48	17.5%		sig	nificantly different		
	3. D	48	17.5%		off	ices or jobs		
	4. I	90	33%		ı.	None	138	50%
	5. R	86	31%		2.	One-Two	111	41%
4.	Age		* .		3.	Three-Four	21	8%
	1. 25 or under	15	5.4%		4.	Five or more	3	1%
	2. 26-29	74	27%			•	273	
	3. 30-34	98	36%	*10.	Wł	at led you to seek e	emplo	<i>7</i> -
	4. 35-39	46	17%			ent with the Agency		,
	5. 40-44	21	7.6%		ı.	Recruiter	105	39%
	6. 45 or over	20	7%		2.	Advertisement	20	8%
5.	Sex	•		•	3.	Friend	44	16%
	1. Male	2 08	77%		4.	Self initiative	_100	³ STAT
	2. Female	63	23%			1	269	SIAI
						provide the second		

*Questions in this section will be taken from the data on hand. Asterisked questions must be asked E 2 IMPDET CL BY

of interviewee. Approved For Release, 2005/07/13.: CIA-RDP76-00593R000100120004-6

*11.	What was your motivation in
	taking a job here?

1.	Absorbing job	69	26%
2.	Agency mission	51	19%
3.	Government career	43	. 16%
4.	Good career generally	49	18%
5.	A job	47	18%
6.	Other		3%
	~ 2	266	

12. Organizational Office

DCI Area

- 1. O/DCI
- Comp
- 3. IG
- ICS
- NIO
- 6. OLC
- 7. OGC

Management & Services

- 8. Med
- 9. Commo
- 10. Log
- 11. Pers
- 12. Security
- 13. OTR
- 14. Fin
- 15. OJCS
- 16. CTP

- 21. NE
- 22. SB
- 23. WH

STAT

Intelligence

- 27. OBGI
- 28. OCI
- CRS 29.
- 30. **FBIS**
- 31. OER
- 32. IA
- 33. OSR
- 34. OPR
- 35. DDI
- 36. UCS
- 37. OPCS

Science & Technology

- 38. O/S&T
- 39. OEL
- 40. ORD
- 41. OSA
- 42. OSI
- 43. OWI
- 44. ODE
- 45. OTS
- 46. NPIC

Operations

17. Staffs

OS, PS, CCS, SS

18. AF

19. EUR

20. EA

* Questions in this section will be Approved From Relication 2005/07/13: CIA-RDP76-00593R000100120001-6

on hand. Asterisked questions must be asked of intervia

Interview No.

Personnel Management System Generally speaking, do you feel 1. Fully 100 36% your abilities are used in your 2. Generally 134 49% present job? 3. Somewhat 27 10% 4. Little 11 4% 5. N.A. 2 1% 274 If the answer to Question No. 13 1. Job does not require 14 38% is negative ("somewhat" or 2. Job too narrowly 10 2.8% "little") can you explain the reason. designated 3. Poor management 11 31% 4. Other 3% 36 Have you advanced as rapidly as 1. Yes 176 64% you think you should? 2. No . 79 29% 3. Unsure 7% .18 N.A. 16. If the answer to Question No. 15 1. Restrictive Agency 6 7% is "No", how do you explain it? Policy Restrictive Manage-46 57% ment practice Poor grade 7 9% structure 4. Discrimination 16 20% 5. Other 6 7% 81 17. What do you think of the training 1. Generally useful 202 74% offered you by the Agency? Explain 2. Little or no use 31 11% why you feel this way. [Coded N. A. 40 15% under No. 18 below.] 18. 1. Insight to Agency 21. 10% and career Job related 101 45% Good course 49 22% available 4. Some poor 32 14% administration 6 Approved For Release, 2005/07/13: CIA-RDP76-00593R000000012000046 3% 6% Orientation only/ introduction

	Approved For Release 2005/07	/13 : Cl	A-RDP76	Y -00593R00	Intervi 0010012000	ew No 1-6	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_p.4
19.	If you have had rather substar	stial t	rainina	1.	Tr.,11	60	22%	
± /•	in the Agency, is the skill you				•	60	22%	
	being used in your present job		rea	2.		-	27%	
	being used in your present job	ŗ		3.			6%	
				4.		21	8%	
				5.	N. A.	$\frac{100}{272}$	37%	
20.	How do you feel about the way	the		1.	Very we	e11	47	19%
	promotion system works? Ex	plain	why	2.				56%
	you think this is so. [Coded u			3.			46	18%
	below.]			4.		,	10	4%
				5.	•		9	3%
							253	
21.	1. Fair; rewards merit	63	24%	1.				
	2. Good personal experience	54		2.				
	3. Seniority/time-in-grade over	er 14	5%	3.				
	emphasized			4.	1.			
	4. Arbitrary	90		5.				
	5. More needs to be known	38 25 9	15%					
22.	What is your opinion about the			1.	System	works w	ell 39	16%
	assignments are made? What			2.	Reasona	bly well	93	38%
	think so? [Coded under No. 23	3 belo	w.]	3.	Not very	well	54	22%
				4.	Poorly		24	10%
				5.	N. A.		34	14%
							244	
						•		
23.	 Management and individual 	65	30%	1.				
	need, balanced		* 0.51	2.				
	2. Management predominates	38	18%	3.				
	3. Individual fully served	5 24	2% 11%	4.				
	4. Individual must initiate/ maneuver	24	11%	5.				
	5. No pattern; so system	_83	39%				÷	
	J. No paccern, bo by been.	215		•		•		
24.	Do you feel that people with sin	milar	back-	1.	Yes	85 335	%	
	grounds and jobs should be in t			2.	·	06 415		
	career service, regardless of			3.		67 269		
	Directorate in which they work					258		
i								

ADMINISTRATEZ	- HIBBIAL USE ONLY	
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•	Approved For Release 2005/07/13 : CIA-RDP76-00	อยงห	Interview No.	p.	5
25.	Do you believe you have the opportunity to take the initiative to find other jobs?	1. 2.	Yes 220 83 No 43 16		
26.	What do you think of the possibility of crossing Directorate boundaries?	1. 2.	Very possible Possible	28 112	11% 46%
		3. 4.	Seldom possible Impossible	97 10	39% 4 %
27.	Have you discussed your future career	1.		1 %	
	with any officer? (If answer is No, skip to Question No. 33 below). If		•	!% :%	
	N. A. skip to Question No. 37 below).		275		
28.	If answer to Question No. 27 is "Yes"	1.		107	55%
	what was the officer's position?	2. 3.		52 31	26% 16%
		3. 4.	M&S Officer	4	2%
		5.	Other	2	1%
				196	
29.	What brought about the discussion?	1.		84	43%
		2. 3.		41 27	21% 14%
		4.	Personnel off.	3	2%
		5.	*	39 195	20%
		•			
30.	1, 1100 000		of performance	5 13	3% 7%
	2. Possi 3. Train		dvancement	: 5	2%
		_	ssignments	38	20%
			lirections	21	11%
			scussion	109	56%
	7. Other			3	1%
		•		194	

	•			-	
31.	Was the discussion satisfactory? Why? [Coded under No. 32 below]	1. 2.	Yes 164 81% No. 26 13%		
	[coded ander No. 32 Sciew]	3.	<u>*</u>		
32.	1. Got concrete results; what 28 14% he wanted	1. 2.	203		
	2. Responsive, encouraging 113 58% exchange	3. 4.			
	3. Within limits of situation 21 11% o.k but	5. 6.			
•	4. Too general or negative 22 11% 5. Other 11 6%	•			•
33.	(If the answer to Wuestion 27 above was		Yes 35 53%		
	"No"). Have you felt the need to discuss your future career with an officer? (If answer is "No" skip to No. 36).	2.	No. $\frac{31}{66}$ 47%		
34.		1.	Did not try	1	3%
	is "Yes" explain why you have not done so.	2.	Did not know where to go	5	14%
		3.	Useless: personal cause	1	3%
		4.	Useless:		30%
			the management officer	;	
		5.	Useless: the system	5	14%
		6.	Other	36	
35.	If the answer to Question No. 33 above is "Yes" what would you	1.	Evaluation of performance	0	0
	like to discuss about your future?	2.	Possible advancement	2	6%
- 14.		3. 4.	Training needs Possible	1	3% 3%
		5.	assignments	_	
			Possible directions	16	49%
		6.	Overall discussion	11	33%
. .		7.	Other	2 33	6%
	A COL CAR BEAUTIFUL OF THE PARTY OF THE PART				

		,			
86.	If you have not felt the need to discuss your future, why is this		System works well	5	16%
	the case?		Manage by myself No purpose to be	10 12	32% 39%
			served		3 7 70
		4.	Other	4	13%
				31	

Interview No. ____p.6 Cont.

Admi	inistr	ation

37.	What is the best source from
	which you normally learn things
	of concern to you about the Agency
	and its policies? (i.e., Agency
	activities, personnel policies).

- 38. Do you feel the information you thus obtain is adequate?
- 39. If the answer to Question No. 38 above is "No" why do you feel this is the situation?

- 40. How do you feel about the administrative information made available to you in your office to carry on your job (i.e., where to go for information, coordination, approvals, decisions)?
- 41. If the answer to Question No. 40 above is negative (i.e., "poor") how do you explain the situation?

	and the second second			
1.	Staff meeting	80	41	%
2.	Memos	51	26	-
3.	Bulletin	1		%
	Boards			• -
4.	Assemblies	1	1	%
5.	Grapevine	45	23	-
. 6.	Other	15		%
,		193		•
1.	Yes	210	7 8	%
2.	No.	_58	22	%
	•	268		
1.	Grapevine unre	eliable	4	7%
2.	Formal Ch'1:		15	27%
	filtered out			
3.	Too sketchy/		13	24%
	untimely			
4.	Need more on		<u>23</u> 55	42%
	Agency polic		55	
	and activitie	S		
1.	Good	177	()	n-f
2.	Fair	172 75	63	-
3.	Poor	18	27	70 %
4.	N. A.	10	3'	-
-1.	11. 21.	$\frac{7}{274}$	3	70
		217		
ı.	Poor Manage-	15	7	1%
	ment:none/		_	
	filtered out			
2.	Rapid Turnover	r 2	1	0%
	personnel	•	• •	. •
3.	Lateral commo	3	1	4%
	difficult		-	
4.	Other	1		5%

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		Interview I	No	_p. 8
42. What do you think about the Letter	1.	Very helpful	28	10%
of Instruction? [Coded under No.	2.		56	20%
43 below]	3.	-	63	23%
	4.	Not helpful	68	25%
	5.	Unsure	16	6%
	6.	N. A.	43	16%
			274	/0
	-			
43.	1.	Sound concept	85	32%
	2.	Good selectively	21	8%
		only		
	3.	Good concept but	116	44%
		impractical		•
	4.	Do not have an	44	16%
		LOI	44 266	
44. What do you feel about how the				
,	1.	Well done	106	39%
work and responsibilities are	2.	Reasonably done	133	49%
divided in your office?	3.	Poorly done	24	9%
	4.	N. A.	9	3%
			272	
45. If the answer to Question No.	1.	Poor structure	10	Ford
44 above is negative ("poorly")	2.	Poor super-	12	50%
explain the situation.		visors	9	38%
	3.	Other	2 .	100
	٠.	Oulei	$\frac{3}{24}$	12%
			24	
46. How do you feel about the	1.	Appropriate	216	81%
requirements for your job?	2.	Inappropriate	37	14%
	3.	N. A.	13	5%
			266	3 70
47 TC 13			•	
47. If the answer to No. 46 above	1.	Degree unnec'y	11	30%
is ''inappropriate'' can you	2.	Person feels	15	41%
explain why?		over qualified		
	3.	Person fails to	6	16%
		meet qual'ns		
	4.	Other	_ 5	13%
			37	

Interview No. ____p. 9

48.	How do you feel about the	1.	Good	191	71%	
	supervision you receive? Why?	2.	Fair	46	17%	
	[Coded in No. 49 below]	3.		22	8%	
	•	4.		10	4%	
100				269	- 1 /0	
	·			207		
49.	The Supervisor is good	1.	42	16%		
	respected					
	Free rein is given	2.	69	27%		
	Effective working relations/ established	3.	83	32%		
	Not well balanced supervision	4.	33	13%		•
	The Supervisor is poorly or not trained	5.	12	5%		
	Other	6.	18	7%		
			257	• /•	٠.	
				-		
50.	With respect to the objectives of	1.	Well		95	35%
	your office, what do you think of the	2.	Reasona	ably well	130	49%
	way that office is organized?	3.	Not too		21	8%
		4.	Poorly		9	3%
		5.	N.A.		13	5%
					268	- /-
			4		•	•
					•	
51.	Do you have any opportunity to	1.	A great	deal	29	11%
	influence the way your office is	2.	Modera	te	98	36%
	organized?	3.	Rather	little	60	22%
		4.	None		68	25%
		5.	N. A.	·	17	6%
					272	

52. To what extent do you feel your office is achieving its objectives?	1.			
office is achieving its objectives?	1.	• •		
office is achieving its objectives?		Well		400
200 00000000000000000000000000000000000	2.	· · · - 	130	. , -
	3.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	122	,,
	4.	The same of the sa	10	
	·z.	Poorly	3	1%
			265	
3. If answer to Question No. 52 above	1.	Poor management		r om
is negative ("not too well" or		Inadequate objec-		50%
"poorly") how do you explain the	۵,	tives	6	50%
weakness in achieving objectives?		uves	12	:
4. In balance, how would you judge your	1.	Better	107	57%
+ £££ + - 1 Th	2.	About equal	65	34%
-41	3.	Not as good	17	34% 9%
	٠.	Tiou do good	$\frac{17}{189}$	970
			109	
eneral Attitudes				
5. How would you describe the general	1.	Pleasant 21	11	77%
atmosphere in which you work?	2.	Tolerable 4	19	18%
	3.	Unpleasant	10	4%
	4.	Abrasive	2	1%
	5.	N. A.	1	0
		27		_

6. How would you describe the mental	1.	Vigorous	8	36%
tone (approach to the work) in your	2.	Alert 12	4	46%
office?	3.	Casual 3	0	11%
ng mengangan kecamatan dalam kecamatan dalam kecamatan dalam kecamatan dalam kecamatan dalam kecamatan dalam k	4.	Lethargic	7.	3%
	5.	Other	8	3%
ϵ	6.	N. A.	2 .	1%
		26		
1. If the answer to Question No. 56	1.	Uninspiring work	9	25%
above is negative (i.e., casual or	2.			39%
lethargic), can you explain the		difficulties		- 14
cause?	3.		.3	36%
cause:	•			JU 10

Interview No. ____p.11

	•				
•					
58.	Do you feel you can have a	1.	Very satisfying	13	4 51%
	satisfying career in the Agency?	2.			• -
	•	3.			1 4%
		4.	Not very satisf		•
				26	4
59	How do you feel in general about	1.	17 11 <i>t</i>		
<i>37</i> ,	the Agency as a place to work?	2.	Excellent	9	
	Why? [Coded under No. 60	3.	Very good Good	11	•
	below]	3. 4.	Fair	5	
		5.	Poor	•	8 3%
		٠.	1 001	26	$\frac{1}{\epsilon}$ 0.
				20:	
60.	Important role/mission	1.	33 1	2%	
	Opportunity for real prof.	2.		7%	
	career in field			• -	
	High quality of personnel	3.	40 1	5%	
	Good admin. gives job	4.		2%	
	satisfaction				
·	Critical re personal treatment/	5.	29 1	1%	
	admin policy-management				
	Other	6.		3%	
		•	265		
61.	What is your attitude about	1	To. 6 1		
	remaining with the Agency?	1. 2.	Intend to stay Uncertain	214	, •
	vidi the right.	3.	Intend to leave	43	
		4.	N. A.	6	• -
		т.	N. A.	<u>265</u>	
		•	•	200	•
62.	If you intend to stay with the	1.	Advance in grad	e 189	74%
	Agency, what are your hopes and		and position	20,	/ 0
	aspirations for your future here?	2.	Advance in posit	tion 21	8%
		3.	Advance in grad		
		4.	Status quo	11	
•		5.	Other	14	
•		6.	N. A.	12	

				Interview Nop. 12		
63.	Ag	ow do you think the morale is in the ency? [Coded in Question No. 64 low]	1. 2. 3.	Very good Good Fair	20 133 82	8% 52% 32%
			4. 5.	Poor Other	16 6 257	6% 2%
64.		w do you account for the state of rale?	•			
	1.	Attractive work and working environment			101	39%
	2.	Management upswing after Schlesinger era			41	16%
	3.	Current problems, and cont'g			59	23%
	4.	Dissat'n with personnel treatment-management			42	16%
	5.	Other			<u>14</u>	6%